

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 OES-07 DOE-11

SOE-02 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 OPIC-03 XMB-02

MCT-01 /144 W

-----005775 021520Z /50

R 021345Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5442

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 02026

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, PDEV, EAID, OAU, GW, GB

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT BONGO TO FRG

REFS: (A) BONN 01895 (NOTAL); (B) BONN 01613 (NOTAL);

(C) STATE 026048 (NOTAL); (D) 77 BONN 09307

(NOTAL); (E) LIBREVILLE 257 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO THE FRG AMBASSADOR TO LIBREVILLE (SIEMES), THE VISIT OF GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO TO BONN WAS VERY SHORT ON SUBSTANCE. SIJES OBSERVED THAT BONGO SEEMED QUITE FLATTERED BY HIS TREATMENT IN THE FRG, BUT THAT HE HAD DONE LITTLE TO ELABORATE ON HIS WELL-KNOWN  
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VIEWS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, SOVIET POLICY IN AFRICA,  
AND AFRICAN PROBLEMS IN GENERAL.

2. ON THE SUBJECT OF THE HORN (REFTEL C), THE GERMAN SIDE REVIEWED ITS POLICY AND CONCERNS, EMPHASIZING ITS EFFORTS NOT TO PLAY FAVORITES IN THE OGADEN STRUGGLE. BONGO WAS QUITE CANDID IN EXPLAINING THAT NEITHER THE

OAU NOR HE PERSONALLY HAS BEEN ABLE TO FORMULATE A FIRM POLICY POSITION ON THE ISSUE. HE HOPES THAT THE ETEKI FACT-FINDING MISSION TO THE HORN WILL PROVIDE HIM WITH THE PERSPECTIVE AND FACTS HE LACKS. UNTIL THEN, THERE IS LITTLE HE CAN DO OTHER THAN ENCOURAGE THE MEDIATION EFFORTS OF OTHERS.

3. BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND GABON ARE EXCELLENT. ACCORDING TO SIEMES, THE ONLY RUB HAS BEEN GERMAN DISAPPOINTMENT WITH CERTAIN GABONESE UN VOTES: SPECIFICALLY WITH GABONESE SUPPORT OF A 32ND UNGA RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ALLEGED FRG NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, IN HIS HOUR CONVERSATION WITH BONGO, EMPHASIZED FRG DISPLEASURE WITH THIS GABONESE "ATTACK" AND NOTED THAT GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS MUST BE REFLECTED IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AS WELL. BONGO TOOK THE POINT QUIETLY.

4. BONGO'S MAIN REASON FOR COMING TO THE FRG NOW, SIEMES SAID, WAS TO ASK FOR BUDGETARY SUPPORT BUT HE WAS WELL PREPARED FOR THE NEGATIVE ANSWER HE RECEIVED. THE GERMAN SIDE, HOWEVER, OFFERED TO CONSIDER RAISING THE PER PROJECT LIMITS (CURRENTLY DM 1 MILLION) ON HERMES GUARANTEES TO ENCOURAGE GREATER PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN GABON.

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5. THE GABONESE SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE INTEREST (AS

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MCT-01 /144 W

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R 021345Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5443  
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
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USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 02026

DID THE GERMANS) IN PURSUING THE IDEA OF A MIXED COMMISSION, WHICH HAD SURFACED DURING GENSCHER'S 1977 VISIT TO GABON. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PENDING TREATY ON DOUBLE TAXATION WILL BE FINALIZED IN LATE SPRING. OTHER ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE VISIT ARE REPORTED REF A.

6. AS FAR AS THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS AWARE, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT FOLLOWED UP ON THEIR PROTEST OF BONGO'S VISIT TO BERLIN. THE FRG EMBASSY IN MOSCOW HAS BEEN QUERIED ON THE INCIDENT; ITS PRELIMINARY REPORT SAID THAT THE SOVIETS HAD TOLD THE GABONESE THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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BONGO'S PRESENCE IN BERLIN WOULD BE "INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT." BONN GROUP DISCUSSION REPORTED SEPTEL.

7. WE ARE TOLD THAT SEVERAL OF BONGO'S AFRICAN COLLEAGUES WERE DISPLEASED WHEN HE ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR TO BONN DURING A RECEPTION INTRODUCING BONGO TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. BONGO LATER COMPLAINED TO HIS GERMAN HOSTS AND WAS TOLD THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE PROTOCOL HAD ASKED HIS AIDE IF THERE WERE ANY REPRESENTATIVES HE WOULD PREFER NOT MEETING. THE AIDE MENTIONED ONLY THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR. BONGO ACCEPTED THE EXPLANATION.

8. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT BONGO WAS NOT QUERIED ON THE QUESTION OF THE ANTI-HIJACKING CONTACT GROUP. THE ITEM HAD BEEN INCLUDED BY THE WORKING LEVEL IN VARIOUS SETS OF TALKING POINTS, BUT THE SUBJECT WAS

NOT RAISED. SIMILARLY, DEVELOPMENTS IN CHAD WERE NOT  
DISCUSSED IN MORE THAN GENERAL TERMS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, PBOR, PDEV, EAID, GE, GB, OAU, (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)  
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20 Mar 2014  
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